



NEWS RELEASE

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KIDS HEALTH & SAFETY DAY SLATED Popular Children's Event Features Information, Screenings and Fun

Middletown – This year's Middletown Kids Health & Safety Day is scheduled for Saturday, June 14th from 10:00AM - 2:00PM (rain or shine) and will be held at a new location — Cross Street A.M. E. Zion Church, 440 West Street.

Kids Day Chairperson, Lt. Heather Desmond, said that the annual event features health and safety information on such topics as autism, brain injury prevention, poison control, sun safety, nutrition, and much more.

“The Connecticut Free Masons will be providing complete child-identification (including fingerprints, DNA, video, and photograph). There will be foot, dental, vision, and spinal health screenings as well as massage therapy”, she added.

Desmond went on to say that there are interactive exhibits and other activities as well.

“Kids can learn how to survive a fire in the Middletown Fire Department's Smoke House Trailer. They can also climb aboard a fire rescue truck, or sit in a police cruiser. They can even learn about weather forecasting at the Channel 8 Mobile Weather Lab which will be doing live remotes throughout the morning”.

(more)

“Middletown Kiwanis is sponsoring a bike rodeo and will be giving away a limited number of bike helmets to kids who bring their bicycles for a free safety check from Pedal Power”, Desmond added.

New this year, is the Family Bike Ride (weather permitting) sponsored by Middletown Complete Streets. At 9:30 am, parents and children will leave the Cross St. AME Zion Church parking lot on a 4.5 mile bicycle ride. Riders are required to wear helmets. The Middletown Police Department will assist to close lanes and/or roads to ensure the safety of all young riders.

The City of Middletown Common Council approved the creation of a Complete Streets Planning Committee by resolution on March 5, 2012. The Committee was charged to develop a long-term plan for infrastructure improvements, including bike lanes, sidewalks, and multi-use trails and increase educational programs that promote safe walking and bicycling activity within the City. The Middletown Complete Streets Plan was presented in March 2013. The mission of the Plan is "to encourage biking, walking and transit on Middletown streets." The Committee will work to provide safe and comfortable routes for walking, bicycling and public transportation to increase use of these modes of transportation, enable convenient and active travel as part of daily activities, reduce pollution, and meet the needs of all users of the streets, including children, families, older adults and people with disabilities.

Entertainment includes K-9 demonstrations by the Middletown Police Department and appearances by team mascots from the Connecticut Sun, Hartford Wolf Pack, and New Britain Rock Cats (a limited number of free Rock Cats home game tickets will be available). For fun, there will be face painting, moon bounces, spin and sand art, free popcorn and balloons.

Desmond added that all events exhibits and information are subject to change without notice. She also reminds everyone that this year’s event is at a new venue.

“A.M.E. Zion Church is a beautiful facility with plenty of free parking. It accommodates both of our inside and outside needs,” she said.

Middletown Kids Health & Safety Day is sponsored by the City of Middletown (health, police, and fire departments and South Fire District), and Dunkin’ Donuts.

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